Message Text

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PAGE 01 DACCA 00437 230247Z ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 SY-05 MCT-02 OC-06 CCO-00 A-02 OPR-02 SES-01 SAA-01 IO-15 ACDA-12 /118 W

-----034597 231413Z/45

R 220955Z JAN 79 FM AMEMBASSY DACCA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2231 INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

UNCLAS DACCA 0437

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, BG

SUBJECT : BIHARI DEMONSTRATORS CLASH WITH DACCA POLICE

REF: (A) DACCA 0041; (B) 78 DACCA 5897

- 1. ON JANUARY 20, A REPORTED 21 PERSONS, INCLUDING TWO POLICE, WERE INJURED WHEN DACCA POLICE USED LATHIS (METALTIPPED STAVES) TO BREAK UP A DEMONSTRATION BY BIHARIS ("STRANDED PAKISTANIS") IN FRONT OF THE PAKISTAN EMBASSY IN DACCA. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, THE POLICE MOVED IN WHEN CHANTING DEMONSTRATORS ATTEMPTED TO ENTER THE OFFICE BUILDING IN WHICH THE PAKISTAN EMBASSY IS LOCATED. IN THE ENSUING MELEE DEMONSTRATORS DAMAGED THE PAKISTAN AMBASSADOR'S CAR AND TWO OTHER VEHICLES. THREE DEMONSTRATORS WERE ARRESTED, AND A POLICE SUB-INSPECTOR WAS SUSPENDED "FOR EXCESSES" IN CONNECTION WITH THE INCIDENT.
- 2. THE CLASH OCCURRED IN THE MIDST OF RENEWED BIHARI AGITATION FOR THEIR REPATRIATION TO PAKISTAN, WHICH MAY BE RELATED TO FOREIGN MINISTER SHAMSUL HUQ'S STATEMENT UPON HIS RETURN FROM TALKS IN NEW DELHI AND ISLAMABAD LINCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 DACCA 00437 230247Z

THAT REPATRIATION OF BIHARIS WOULD BEGIN "IMMEDIATELY" (REF A). IN ADDITION TO THE DEMONSTRATION, SEVERAL BIHARIS HAD STAGED A HUNGER STRIKE SINCE JANUARY 12. ONE FASTING BIHARI LEADER WHO HAD STATIONED HIMSELF ON THE GROUNDS OF THE DACCA HIGH COURT BUILDING (AND LATER WAS REMOVED TO DACCA MEDICAL COLLEGE HOSPITAL) ANNOUNCED HE WOULD BREAK HIS FAST JANUARY 20 AFTER HE REPORTEDLY

RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM BD HOME MINISTER MUSTAFIZUR RAHMAN THAT AFTER FEBRUARY 18 (THE DATE OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS) THE BDG WOULD TAKE UP THE MATTER WITH THE PAKISTAN GOVERNMENT. SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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